



The Trustees of Reservations

Conserving the
Massachusetts Landscape
Since 1891

SPECIAL PLACES

Volume 8, No. 1 ❧ Winter 2000

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
For Members and Donors of
The Trustees of Reservations



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Conservation Works! volunteer George Davis in action pruning apple trees at Long Hill in Beverly.

Over 500 Volunteers Participate in First Statewide Volunteer Work Day

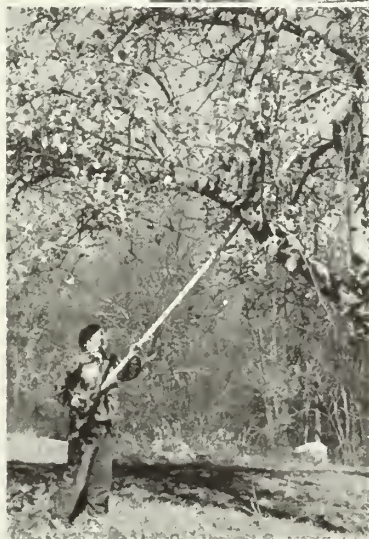
Thanks to picture perfect weather and the boundless energy and enthusiasm of teams of hard-working volunteers, our first-ever statewide volunteer work day—*Conservation Works!*—was a tremendous success.

Over 500 volunteers from more than 100 towns across Massachusetts and parts of New Hampshire and Connecticut turned out on November 6th to participate in *Conservation Works!* Many drove from great distances to participate in a project of interest or take advantage of the chance to visit a new reservation.

Volunteers helped us clear and improve trails, re-open vistas, build boardwalks, plant



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trees, assemble bird boxes, and clean-up coastlines. A great deal of work was achieved. We are grateful to all who gave their time and energy to make the day a great success.

Conservation Works! 2000 will be held on Saturday, October 28, 2000. Information about specific work day projects will be listed in our Summer 2000 newsletter as well as posted on our web site—www.thetrustees.org.

Enjoy a few snap shots from the day and quotable quotes from volunteers who wrote to us. We look forward to seeing you this fall! ❧

"We just enjoyed the whole thing enormously and wished we could have stayed longer."

continued on page 3

Dear Friends and Trustees,



As I approach the end of my professional tenure at The Trustees of Reservations, I am looking forward to re-joining the ranks of active amateurs. Yes, there are a few of us who are lucky enough to be putting in a stint—or career, if we've been really fortunate—as full-time staff for The Trustees. There are a great many more of us, though, who are availing ourselves of the many opportunities to serve as volunteers for what I have come to believe is the best nonprofit organization in the country.

One super-achieving volunteer I know well has, over the last 15 years, tackled a full schedule of graduate school, college teaching, raising four children, and helping her hapless husband. She's complemented this workload with a major commitment of voluntary service to The Trustees. Why does she do it? Perhaps out of loyalty or just a good old yankee sense of frugality. The idea of The Trustees getting a "twofer" appeals to her—pay for Fred, and get Susie for free.

In any event, she loves The Trustees and gets enormous satisfaction from helping us pursue our mission of preserving the best of the Massachusetts landscape. I believe her. There is something wonderful about contributing time and effort to a cause which transcends our "work-a-day" world and which will last long after we've gone.

The tradition of volunteerism within one's community or for one's favorite charity, group, or cause is rich in New England and something which distinguishes this region from others. The

tradition of volunteerism at The Trustees is equally strong and stretches back to our earliest beginnings.

In this edition of *Special Places*, we focus on what it means to be a volunteer for The Trustees of Reservations by honoring those who were part of our first statewide volunteer work day. Last year, more than 1,500 individuals contributed over 20,000 hours of *pro bono* effort on some 125 separate tasks. The work accomplished was invaluable to the organization and would have otherwise fallen to paid staff or simply would not have gotten done.

There are ten volunteer opportunities highlighted on the Calendar pages of this newsletter including work days at properties and public events. You will read that we are looking for volunteer photographers to help illustrate the next edition of the *Property Guide*, that volunteers are needed to host the Designer Showhouse at the Inn at Castle Hill, and that help is needed by the ecology program at Long Hill. Visitors to our web site may have already seen our listing of volunteer jobs, but if you've not, go to the "How You Can Help" page, and the site will guide you from there.

You will also note in our Calendar pages that we've added a new emblem next to listings for which we are seeking volunteers. The emblem looks a bit like the old insignia on Superman's shirt, doesn't it? Or am I dating myself? Anyway, this is a call to all you Clark Kents and Lois Lanes, "*Step right up... The Trustees' telephone booth awaits ... see you there...up, up and away!*"

Frederic Winthrop
Executive Director

The Trustees of Reservations

Conserving the
Massachusetts Landscape
Since 1891

We invite your articles,
photographs, comments, and
suggestions. Please send them to:

Special Places
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www.thetrustees.org

Founded in 1891, The Trustees of Reservations is a member-supported nonprofit conservation organization which preserves, for public use and enjoyment, properties of exceptional scenic, historic, and ecological value in Massachusetts and works to protect special places across the state. Today, The Trustees owns, manages, and interprets 83 reservations totaling over 21,500 acres of land, and protects more than 12,000 acres through the use of conservation restrictions on 178 parcels of private land. The Trustees of Reservations is not an agency of state government. We rely for support entirely upon membership dues, contributions, grants, reservation receipts, special events, and endowments.

For information about becoming a member or to request a change of address, please contact the Membership Office at 978/524-1858, write to us at the address to the left, email us at ttormemb@ttor.org, or visit our website at www.thetrustees.org.

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Please recycle this newsletter by passing it on to a friend or donating it to a school, library, business, or wherever it might be read with interest.

www.thetrustees.org

For up-to-date information about visitor season, hours, and fees of certain reservations, visit our web site!

Volunteer Work Day... continued from front cover



"Felt GREAT!"

"The day helped us feel more connected to the property and the organization as a whole."

© 2000 TTOR / C.ROSTROM / PEAKED MOUNTAIN



"We ACCOMPLISHED something."

"I really feel like I made a difference."

"It was a great opportunity for one's kids to learn about volunteering."



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"Very fulfilling day."



© 2000 BIBLER / A. RANE WILKIE REFUGEE

"I have gotten so much PLEASURE out of hiking World's End that it really meant a lot to me to GIVE SOMETHING BACK."

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Serpentine Wall Saved!

Built in 1930 as a backdrop for Helen Coolidge's French-style *potager* garden, the Serpentine Wall at the Stevens-Coolidge Place in North Andover was designed by architect and garden designer Joseph Everett Chandler as a copy of one that Thomas Jefferson had designed for the University of Virginia. A single brick in width, it stands 6 feet tall, and gracefully undulates across a span of 165 feet. Chandler's Jeffersonian inspiration is an excellent example of the Colonial Revival Period, an era fascinated by colonial icons. Here, it represents the Coolidge family's homage to their distinguished ancestor, Thomas Jefferson, and was the last major collaboration between Mrs. Coolidge and Chandler.

Over the years, time and the elements have taken a toll on the Serpentine Wall. The main problem has been water infiltrating from the top down due to the lack of a protective wall cap. When constructed, the decision was made not to use Jefferson's wall cap—a design flaw that, given the forces of the freeze-thaw cycle, has led to the development of numerous cracks. As more

brick and joints in the wall failed, the number of entry points for water increased, thus accelerating the wall's deterioration.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Stevens Foundation and proceeds from The Stevens-Coolidge Place's annual Spring Plant Sale, preservation mason Richard Irons was hired to restore the wall. The treatment called for complete reconstruction of the top half of the wall, salvaging as much of the original brick as possible, followed by careful mortar analysis to match the original color and texture, and finally the installation of a copper wall cap to shed water away.

Although the copper cap was not part of the original design, it is a reversible preservation decision that will ensure the wall's integrity for many years.

With the restoration of the Serpentine Wall, an element of grace and elegance has been returned to the landscape. Laura Bibler, a local committee member for the Stevens-Coolidge Place, is now researching the former *potager* garden as part of her study in Landscape Design at Radcliffe Seminars. The French

Garden, as it was called, once contained forty-two beds laid out in various geometric shapes and filled with an abundance of fruits, vegetables, herbs, and flowers. It was inspired by the great chateau gardens seen and admired by the Coolidges while in France at the beginning of World War I. In addition to the wall restoration, it is hoped that Mrs. Bibler's report will be another step toward the eventual restoration of this colorful garden feature. 🍷



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After Reconstruction

LAND CONSERVATION

Year End Land Conservation Wrap-Up

acquisitions:

DEXTER PROPERTY, LANCASTER: Nathaniel "Nat" Dexter was a beloved, active member of his community and served as a Corporate Trustee and Advisory Council member for The Trustees. Though he passed away in 1999, his memory will live on through the gift of a 38-acre hilltop in Lancaster. The property is a classic glacial drumlin, impressive for its graceful form, open meadow, and the beautiful views it offers of the town, the Nashua River, and surrounding landscape of central Massachusetts.



Dexter Property, Lancaster

JOHNSON PROPERTY, PETERSHAM: Thanks to the generosity of Rosalie Fiske Johnson of Carlisle, a 40-acre parcel on East Road in Petersham was donated to The Trustees and added to Brooks Woodland Preserve. The property is covered by a mixed hardwood and white pine forest, interspersed with wetlands and a "surprise meadow" at its center. It is a wonderful addition to the reservation for visitors to explore.

conservation restrictions (CR):

CLARK PROPERTY, EDGARTOWN: George and Charlotte Clark of Brookline graciously donated a CR on 17-acres of important wetlands, oak forest, and over 700 feet of shoreline along Edgartown Great Pond. Intense development pressure on Martha's Vineyard is threatening this globally rare habitat; the CR will help to ensure its long-term survival.



Clark Property, Edgartown

COVINGTON PROPERTY, GLOUCESTER: Through the foresight and generosity of Corporate Trustees, Chris and Bonnie Covington, 121 acres of predominant woodland on Concord Street and Coles Island Road in Gloucester have been permanently protected by a CR. This land, which is adjacent to extensive marshes along Lanes Creek and Farm Creek on Essex Bay, surrounds 32 additional acres designated as reserved, single-family building envelopes, which have been carefully defined by the Covingtons' planning consultant, David Rosen of LandVest. The CR also sets specific limits on development within those building envelopes.

CRAIG PROPERTY, WESTPORT: Russell and Susan Craig donated a CR on 8 acres on the East Branch of the Westport River. The CR, which is co-held with the Westport Land Conservation Trust, protects a scenic view of the river from Drift Road.

HALE PROPERTY, SWANSEA: Richard and Maria Hale of Port Chester, NY donated a CR on 44 acres of their family farm on the Coles River in Swansea. The property has been in the Hale Family for more than 275 years. The Hales became familiar with The Trustees following a stay at Field Farm Guest House in Williamstown.



Craig Property, Westport

*Lovers of nature
should rally to
preserve for
themselves and
all people...
these scenes of
natural beauty.*

Charles Eliot 1890

continued from previous page...

MIDDLESEX SCHOOL, CONCORD: As part of the successful campaign to protect 1,500+ acres within and surrounding the historic Estabrook Woods in Concord and Carlisle, Middlesex School has given The Trustees a CR on 53 acres of woodland and wetland in the southeast corner of its campus. This is one of the very few examples of a CR given by an independent school to protect part of its campus.



Hale Property, Swansea

PALMER PROPERTY, NATICK & WELLESLEY: Morgan Palmer donated a CR on 6 acres in Natick and Wellesley which is part of the Hunnewell Estate Historic District and abuts property protected by the Von Clemm family in 1992. The CR protects a streamside corridor that flows into Lake Waban. The gift brings to 143 the number of acres around Lake Waban protected by 9 CRs held by The Trustees.



Nice neighbor!
Royalston Falls.

Needed: Conservation Buyer

From time to time, we use *Special Places* to advertise the availability of property which needs the sensitivity of a conservation-minded owner. One such property in Royalston, near Royalston Falls, is a 108-acre privately-owned woodland situated along the western side of Route 32 and containing one house lot. The Metacomet-Monadnock Trail, which crosses the northern part of the property, is a segment in the nearly completed 20-mile Tully Loop Trail which links various conservation lands in the area. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management intends to purchase a conservation restriction on 103-acres of the property to permanently protect the trail. Purchase price: \$50,000. **For more information, call Land Protection Specialist Chris Rodstrom at 978/524-1874.**

massachusetts land conservation trust (MLCT):

PERKINS PROPERTY, SHARON & FOXBOROUGH: Philip and Laurie Perkins donated to MLCT 45 acres of scenic woods in the Canoe River Aquifer Area of Critical Environmental Concern in Sharon and Foxborough. After a CR is given by MLCT to The Trustees, the land will be conveyed to the respective town Conservation Commissions.

SLOCUM'S RIVER, DARTMOUTH: MLCT and the Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust (DNRT) jointly conveyed an Agricultural Preservation Restriction on 58 acres of Island View Farm to the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture. As a condition of their purchase of the Waldo House, the Architectural Heritage Foundation placed a CR on the four-acre parcel surrounding the house. They then completed phase two of the Slocum's River Conservation Project by acquiring the 640-acre Dartmoor Farm, which is located across the street from Island View Farm and contains more than 100 acres of productive fields and a large contiguous woodland tract. MLCT and DNRT subsequently sold more than 500 acres to the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife and 120 acres to Sylvan Nursery subject to an Agricultural Preservation Restriction. Indurama Finance USA Corporation, the previous owner of Island View and Dartmoor Farms, has generously extended a right of first refusal to MLCT and DNRT on Destruction Brook Farm, the third and final property that the partnership intends to protect.



conservation count

LAND OWNED	83 reservations	ACREAGE PROTECTED
		21,647
LAND UNDER CR	186 parcels	12,422
(as of 12/31/99)		TOTAL 34,069

SAVE THE DATE!

2000 MASSACHUSETTS LAND TRUST CONFERENCE

Saturday, March 18, 2000

The Bancroft School Worcester, Massachusetts

*

A day of workshops, seminars and discussion for land trust board members, staff, and interested volunteers.

For registration information, call Ginny Slack at 978/524-1863 or email her at landcons@ttor.org

NOTEWORTHY

News & Shorts of All Sorts

During their annual Fall Field Trip, Corporate Trustees and major supporters of The Trustees visited the new "Butterfly Meadow" at the Rock House Reservation in West Brookfield.



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Great Point Circle Supports Cuskata-Coatue

This spring, The Trustees will offer a special membership to recognize individuals who support Cuskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge on Nantucket with an annual gift of \$500 or more (\$85 is non-tax deductible). Membership includes an over-sand vehicle permit, discounts on tours, special Great Point Circle events, and membership benefits at the Sustaining level. GPC dues directly support the conservation of the reservation's 1,700 acres of beaches, dunes, and forests. For information, call Heather Wager at 978/524-1880 or email her at hwager@ttor.org.



Moonlight over Martha's Vineyard Have you ever seen the sun slowly disappear beyond the shores of Long Point Wildlife Refuge? How about a full moon rise majestically over the Great Sand Cliffs of Menemsha Hills? Explore your nocturnal side this summer and experience coastal landscapes under a new light! After a successful pilot program last year, we will again offer a series of summer interpretation programs under the glow of the silvery moon, including canoe and kayak trips as well as hikes and over-sand sojourns to the lighthouse and beyond. Learn about moon lore, study nocturnal animal adaptations, and observe night critters on Martha's Vineyard. New adventures are on their way. **Look for details in our next newsletter or call Suzan Bellincampi at 508/693-7662.**

On Choate (Hog) Island

in Essex, windows from the Choate House are gradually being reglazed, restrained, and reinstalled. Though not original to the house, they date to 1919 when, under the direction of the well-known architectural preservationist George Francis Dow, Mrs. Richard T. Crane replaced earlier sash windows with these small-mullioned sash windows containing squares of antique Belgian glass. The Choate

House was built around 1725 by Francis Choate, son of Thomas Choate, the first settler of the island. **Visit Choate Island! Call 978/356-4351 for details on the Crane Islands Tour.**



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Volunteers Needed

at Long Hill in Beverly to participate in a program to remove invasive exotic (non-native) plants from the property's gardens and woodland. Volunteers will work in teams 2 days per month for 9 months. Work will involve cutting and removing brush, applying herbicide to cut plant stems, keeping records, monitoring sites, and replanting with appropriate trees and shrubs. The Trustees will pay for volunteers to get an herbicide applicator's license and we will provide all necessary training. For more information, call Susan McGarvey at 978/524-1859. **Look for our new "V" symbol (above) in the following Calendar of Events pages for events which offer volunteer opportunities!**

The Old Manse in Concord is one of over ten historic sites toured as part of the new Boston-Cambridge-Concord Literary Trail of Greater Boston, a half-day tour by trolley offered on Saturdays in March, 12:30-5:30 PM. Reservations are required, \$35 per person. For more information, call 617/574-5950 or visit www.lit-trail.org.

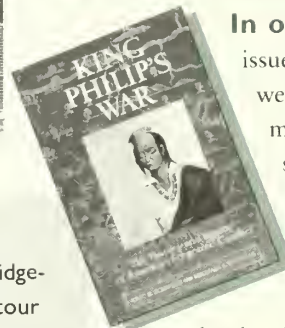


PICTURED LEFT: The Old Manse recently hosted a Civil War encampment with the 28th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry to mark Ezra Ripley's visit to Concord in the summer of 1861 before marching off to war. **Look for details on this year's encampment in the Spring newsletter.**

In our Fall 1999

issue of *Special Places*, we neglected to mention that the story of Mary Rowlandson and Redemption Rock is chronicled in a new

book called *King Philip's War: The History and Legacy of America's Forgotten Conflict* by Eric B. Schultz and Michael Tougas. \$29.95. Published by The Countryman Press. (Tel 800/245-4151). ISBN 0-88150-434-3.



C A L E N D A R

A Listing of Updated and Newly Scheduled Spring Events

C E N T R A L R E G I O N

SAT, MARCH 4 – 9 AM to 3 PM

Zen and the Art of Apple Tree Restoration

Holbrook Property, Rutland 978/840-4446

Hands-on workshop on pruning old apple trees. After demonstration, we'll team up and prune trees in an old orchard. We'll burn brush piles... so bring something to cook for lunch! Pre-register by February 28.

Member: \$10. Non-member: \$15.

SAT, APRIL 8 – 9 AM to 1 PM

Spring Cleaning at The Old Manse

The Old Manse, Concord 978/369-3909



Help spruce up the grounds of The Old Manse in preparation for Patriot's Day! We'll rake the lawns, clean the flower beds, pick up branches, and other fun tasks. Bring gloves and tools (hand pruners, rakes, garden trowels). There will be a limited number of tools available. Pre-register by April 3. FREE to all.

Trekking the Tully Trail

PART 1 – SUN, APRIL 9 – 10 AM

PART 2 – SUN, MAY 7 – 10 AM

PART 3 – SUN, MAY 28 – 10 AM

Tully Trail, Royalston 978/840-4446

Hike the newly completed Tully Trail and learn about the natural and cultural history of this rugged part of Massachusetts! This 3-part walk will cover the entire 18-mile Tully Trail loop. NOTE: Sections of this trail are very steep and rough. These will be strenuous hikes! Wear appropriate clothing and footwear and bring water and a lunch. Meet at Tully Campground parking lot. Transportation back will be available. Pre-registration required. FREE to all.



MON, APRIL 17

Patriot's Day Celebration

The Old Manse, Concord 978/369-3909

Join in the 225th anniversary celebration of the Battle of The Old North Bridge with special activities and refreshments beginning at 7:30 AM. Special 18th century house tours run 8 - 9:30 AM followed by normal tours from 11AM - 5PM. During the season, which begins April 14, The Old Manse is open for tours Monday through Saturday, 10 AM to 5 PM. Sundays and holidays NOON to 5 PM. Member: FREE. Non-member: adult \$6, child (6-12) \$4, senior/student \$5.

SAT, APRIL 15 – 9 AM to 3 PM

Spring into the Swift River

Swift River, Petersham 978/840-4446



Join us at the Nichewaug Tract of the Swift River for a day of trail maintenance. Bring gloves, tools, and a lunch. No chainsaws please! Pre-register by April 10. Meet at the parking area on Nichewaug Road. FREE to all.

SUN, APRIL 16 – 1 PM to 4 PM

Peaked Mountain Perambulation

Peaked Mountain, Monson 978/840-4446

Join us for an afternoon hike around Peaked Mountain. Route and interpretive program to be announced. Call for more information. FREE to all.

SAT, APRIL 22 – 10 AM to 3 PM

Tully Campground Clean-Up

Tully Campground, Royalston 978/840-4446



Help get the Tully Campground ready for our second season starting

April 28th (and find out where the best campsites are!). We'll clean up sites, put together picnic tables, and perform other tasks. Bring gloves, tools (hammers, socket wrenches, hand pruners, lopping shears, pruning saws), and a lunch. No chainsaws please! Pre-register by April 17. Meet at the campground's Ranger Station. FREE to all.

FRI, APRIL 28

Tully Campground Season Opening

Tully Campground, Royalston 978/249-4957

Tully Campground will open for tent camping for our second year. Call the Ranger Station for open days and fees and to make reservations.

SAT, MAY 6 – 10 AM to 3 PM

Peaked Mountain Work Day

Peaked Mountain, Monson 978/840-4446



Help us perk up Peaked! We'll be fixing water bars and culverts along Roslyn's Turnpike. Bring gloves, tools (picks, shovels, grub hoes, steel rakes), and a lunch. Some tools will be provided. Pre-register by May 1. Meet at the parking area on Butler Road. FREE to all.

SUN, MAY 14 – 1 PM to 4 PM

Mother's Day Celebration at The Old Manse

The Old Manse, Concord 978/369-3909

Treat your mother to an afternoon at The Old Manse and enjoy a unique tour highlighting the mothers who lived there. Every mother will receive a surprise gift. Admission: \$20 per family (up to 5). Tours on the hour.

SUN, MAY 14 – 1 PM to 4 PM

Mother's Day on the Mountain

Peaked Mountain, Monson 978/840-4446

Join us for an afternoon hike around Peaked Mountain. Route and interpretive program to be announced. Call for more information. FREE to all.

SAT, MAY 20 – 10 AM to 3 PM

Build a Bigger Butterfly Meadow

Rock House Reservation, West Brookfield 978/840-4446



Help expand our butterfly habitat area. We will be planting plants that will attract our fluttering friends. Wear sturdy work clothes, and bring tools if you have them (shovels, rakes, trowels, hand pruners) and a lunch. Some tools will be provided. Pre-register by May 15. Meet at the main entrance on Rte. 9. FREE to all.

SAT, MAY 20 – 10 AM to 3 PM

Boardwalk Building at Malcolm Preserve

Malcolm Preserve, Carlisle 978/840-4446



Help complete the trail by constructing a boardwalk over a wet area. Wear sturdy work clothes, bring basic tools (hammers, hand saws, tape measures, squares), and a lunch. Pre-register by May 15. Meet at the parking area adjacent to Two Rod Road. FREE to all.

SUN, MAY 21 – 10 AM to 2 PM

Natural History Tour of Nichewaug

Swift River, Petersham 978/840-4446

Pack a snack and take a hike with naturalist and longtime Petersham resident Bob Clark. Hikers will explore a variety of habitats from the upland meadows and wooded ridges down to the banks of the Swift River. Meet at the parking area on Nichewaug Road. Member: \$10. Non-member: \$15. Children: \$5.

ISLANDS REGION

SAT, MARCH 18 – 11 AM to 12 NOON

Seal Search at Long Point Wildlife Refuge

Long Point Wildlife Refuge, Martha's Vineyard 508/693-7662

Come to Long Point Wildlife Refuge to look for and learn about seals. Bring binoculars and meet at the entrance on Waldron's Bottom Road. Member: \$3. Non-member: \$5. Child (under 12): \$2.

SAT, APRIL 15 – 2 PM to 4:30 PM

Long Point: A Land-Use History

Long Point Wildlife Refuge, Martha's Vineyard 508/693-7662

How have humans interacted with the landscape? Join Ecologist Lloyd Raleigh on a hike through Long Point Wildlife Refuge to learn about its land-use history from the first Wampanoag settlers to the present day. Member: \$3. Non-member: \$5. Child (under 12): \$2.

SAT, MAY 13 – 9:30 AM to 3 PM

Mytoi Garden Spring Planting

Mytoi Garden, Martha's Vineyard 508/693-7662

Volunteers are needed to get the garden ready for spring with a day of planting and caring for the Island's only Japanese-style garden. Bring gloves and shovels; we provide lunch. Help needed throughout the day. Meet at Mytoi. Pre-registration required. FREE to all.



NORTHEAST REGION

SAT, MARCH 25 – 11 AM (SNOWDATE: MARCH 26)

Cat's Meow Village Signing with Faline Jones

Castle Hill, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Join artist Faline Jones at Castle Hill for a special signing of her Cat's Meow collectible village buildings. The village is a collection of two-dimensional, wooden, hand-crafted buildings representing many historic buildings around the North Shore, including Castle Hill! FREE to all.

BEGINNING IN MAY

Long Hill Horticultural Lecture and Workshop Series

Long Hill, Beverly 978/921-1944

Register early for these popular lectures and workshops on many gardening subjects. Call for a brochure and further information.



SUN, MAY 14 – 10 AM to 2 PM

The Stevens-Coolidge Place Season Opening

The Stevens-Coolidge Place, North Andover 978/682-3580

House opens for guided tours Mother's Day through Columbus Day: Sundays 1 PM - 5 PM, Wednesdays 2 PM - 4 PM (in June, July and August only), or by appointment. Member: FREE. Non-member: adult \$4, child (under 16) FREE. Gardens open FREE daily 8 AM to sunset.

SUN, MAY 14 – 10 AM to 3 PM

12th Annual Long Hill Rare Plant Sale and Auction

Long Hill, Beverly 978/921-1944

Join us for our annual Mother's Day plant sale and auction featuring unusual trees, shrubs, and perennials. A real treat for Mom! FREE to all.



SUN, MAY 14 – 12 NOON to 4 PM

Croquet Tournament at The Great House

Castle Hill, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351

An official croquet club will guide beginners through this amateur croquet competition for ages 12 and up. Fun for the entire family! Member: \$3. Non-member: \$5. Purchase tickets at gate.

SAT, MAY 20 – 10 AM to 2 PM

The Stevens-Coolidge Place Annual Plant Sale

The Stevens-Coolidge Place, North Andover 978/682-3580

Perennials, old roses, and unusual annuals will be for sale at this always popular plant sale. Enjoy the garden at its peak! Plant sale preview begins at 9 AM. FREE to all.

SOUTHEAST REGION

SATURDAYS THROUGHOUT THE SPRING – 7 AM

Informal Bird Walks

World's End, Hingham 781/821-2977

Meet at the Ranger Station and join other interested bird watchers for an informal walk around World's End. Weather permitting. Member and child (under 12): FREE. Non-member: \$4.

SAT, APRIL 8 – 10 AM to 12 NOON

"Questing" at Turkey Hill

Turkey Hill, Hingham & Cohasset 781/383-9829

"Quests" are educational treasure hunts for all ages! Follow a map and a series of clues to find the "hidden treasure." Learn about wildlife, trees, plants, conservation issues, geology, and history along the way. Dick Norton will lead the "quest." Email: rnorton@massmed.org. Registration with Shirley Marten at number above is appreciated but not required. Meet at the Rte. 3A Turkey Hill parking area. FREE to all.

SAT, APRIL 29 – 10 AM to 3 PM

Charles River Canoe / Kayak Trip

Rocky Narrows, Sherborn 508/359-7815

Canoe or kayak to Rocky Narrows for a guided hike and picnic lunch. Bring your canoe or kayak, life jackets, warm clothes and lunch. Limited to 10 canoes or kayaks. Some canoes available for rental. Contact Bob Costello with any questions. Meet at Rte. 27 bridge across Charles River in Medfield. Pre-registration required. FREE to all.

SAT, APRIL 29 – 8 AM & SAT, MAY 27 – 7 AM

Bird Walk

World's End, Hingham 781/821-2977

Experienced birder Helen Harris Cross will lead a walk focusing on early and late migrants. Bring binoculars. Rain or shine. Meet at Ranger Station. Member and child (under 12): FREE. Non-members: \$4.

SAT, MAY 6 10 AM to 12 NOON

Bradley Estate Spring Garden Cleaning

Bradley Estate, Canton 781/821-2977

Help us spruce up the formal garden at this beautiful estate. We will be raking lawns, cleaning flowerbeds, and beginning spring plantings. Bring gloves, rakes, pruners and trowels. Refreshments provided. Pre-registration requested. Meet in the formal garden (behind the main house). If questionable weather, call 781/821-2996. FREE to all.



SAT, MAY 6 – 10 AM to 3 PM

Trail Maintenance Work Day

Noanet Woodlands, Dover 781/821-2977

Help maintain and repair trails in conjunction with the New England Mountain Bike Association's annual spring work day. Bring gloves, shovels and iron rakes. Meet at the Ranger Station in Caryl Park. FREE to all.



SUN, MAY 14 – 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM

Milliken Path Springtime Walk

Whitney & Thayer Woods, Hingham & Cohasset 781/821-2977

Naturalist Meg Moore will lead a tour of a woodland path. Bordering rhododendrons and azaleas, and possibly Lady Slippers, will be in bloom. Visit the interior garden created in the early 1920s by Mabel Minott Milliken. Meet at Route 3A parking area. Light rain or shine. FREE to all.

SUN, MAY 21 – 1 PM to 3 PM

Frederick Law Olmsted Walk

World's End, Hingham 781/821-2977

Alan Banks, from the Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site in Brookline, will lead a tour focusing on the history of the landscape and examining Olmsted's work. Although Olmsted's subdivision plan was never fully executed, his subtle sketches are apparent upon the land. Member and child (under 12): FREE. Non-member: \$4.

W E S T E R N R E G I O N



FOUR HISTORIC HOUSES IN THE BERKSHIRES

The Colonel John Ashley House

Cooper Hill Road, Ashley Falls, Sheffield 413/229-8600

Open Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day, Saturdays, Sundays, and Monday holidays, 1 PM to 5 PM. Guided tours.

Member: FREE. Non-member: adult \$5, child (6-12) \$2.50, senior \$4.

The William Cullen Bryant Homestead

Bryant Road off Route 112, Cummington 413/634-2244

Open June 26 through Labor Day, Friday – Sunday and Monday holidays, 1 PM to 5 PM. Open Labor Day through Columbus Day, Saturday – Sunday and Monday holidays, 1 PM to 5 PM. Guided tours.

Member: FREE. Non-member: adult \$5, child (6-12) \$2.50, senior \$4. Grounds open FREE daily.

The Mission House

Sergeant Street, Stockbridge 413/298-3239

Open Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day, daily, 10 AM to 5 PM. Guided tours. Last tour departs at 4:15 P.M. Member: FREE.

Non-member: adult \$5, child (6-12) \$2.50, senior \$4.

Naumkeag House and Gardens

Prospect Hill Road, Stockbridge 413/298-3239

Open Memorial Day weekend through Columbus Day, daily 10 AM to 5 PM. Guided tours. Last tour departs at 4:15 PM. Museum shop (members receive 10% discount). House tour: Member: FREE.

Non-member: adult \$8, child (6-12) \$2.50. Self-guided garden tour: Member: FREE. Non-member: adult \$5, child (6-12) \$2.50.

SPRING EVENTS AT BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE

The following events are held at Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls, Sheffield 413/229-8600

SUNDAYS, APRIL through SEPTEMBER – 7:30 AM

The Birds of Southern Berkshire County

Take a journey into the varied habitats of the Cobble for an introduction to nesting and migratory birds of southwest Massachusetts. For beginners and experts. Learn about optics, field guides, bird ecology, and other topics on the natural world. Member: FREE. Non-member: adult \$4, child (6 to 12) \$1.

SAT, APRIL 1 and SAT, MAY 6 – 6 PM to 8 PM

Sounds of a Spring Evening

Experience the sounds of an early spring evening. Learn what is making all those strange sounds and why. Dress warmly. Pre-registration required.

Group size is limited to guarantee a quality experience. Member: adult \$4, child (6-12) \$1. Non-member: adult \$6, child (6-12) \$2.

SAT, APRIL 15 – 10 AM to 2 PM

Volunteer Work Day



Help get the Cobble ready for the busy season while meeting new friends and seeing old ones. A 100 ft. section of boardwalk needs to be removed and a new trail cut in its place. Refreshments will be provided. FREE to all.

SAT, APRIL 22 – 12 NOON to 2 PM

Spring Discovery Day

Join naturalist Don Reid for an exploration of the wonders of spring. From vernal pools to birds to wildflowers, and everything in between. Member: adult \$4, child (6-12) \$1. Non-member: adult \$6, child \$2.

SAT, APRIL 29 – 2 PM to 4 PM

Spring Wildflowers

See the Cobble's famous spring ephemeral wildflower show. Join naturalist Don Reid on a walk around Ledges Trail and witness this spectacular event. We'll help you identify and learn about these amazing wildflowers. Members: adult \$4, child (6-12) \$1. Non-member: adult \$6, child \$2.

SPECIAL EVENTS



THE INN AT CASTLE HILL

The Inn at Castle Hill Designer Showhouse

Following a year-long restoration and conversion of the former Brown Cottage into the Inn at Castle Hill on The Crane Estate in Ipswich, The Trustees of Reservations will

host a Designer Showhouse to kick off the opening of this new B&B. The Designer Showhouse will feature interior and exterior design creations by over 25 juried designers who will recreate through their designs the elegant ambiance of this grand, turn-of-the-century oceanside cottage. Visitors may tour the Inn's 20 rooms, enjoy lunch in the Café, shop in the Home and Garden Boutique, tour The Great House (open May 3 - September 7 Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10 AM - 4 PM), or explore the variety of landscapes which comprise the Crane Estate.

SHOWHOUSE HOURS

Tues - Wed 10 AM to 6 PM

Thurs - Fri 10 AM to 8 PM

Saturday 10 AM to 6 PM

Sunday 12 NOON to 4 PM

Designer Showhouse

April 29

THROUGH May 24

2 0 0 0

Tickets: \$18 in advance, \$20 at the gate.

Information: 978/356-7774



Volunteers are needed to help produce and host the Designer Showhouse. Committees are being formed, including Publicity & Advertising; Program & Ad Solicitation; Design Review; Preview Party; Boutique; Café; Ticket Sales; and Volunteer Staffing. In addition, The Trustees is looking for room volunteers who will be trained to assist with the event. We welcome your participation. Please call 978/356-4351.



Naumkeag Peony Party

Wednesday, May 24

2:00PM to 5:00PM

A must see event! Enjoy the spectacular beauty of the Tree Peonies in bloom at Naumkeag in Stockbridge! Enjoy a *before-the-season* preview at this famous garden. Learn the how-to's of growing this beautiful shrub, and tour the first floor of Naumkeag featuring furnishings from Miss Mabel Choate's trips to the Orient. Member: \$4. Non-member: \$6.

Call 413/298-3239 for more details.

INTERPRETATION

Tracking Dinosaurs in the Connecticut River Valley

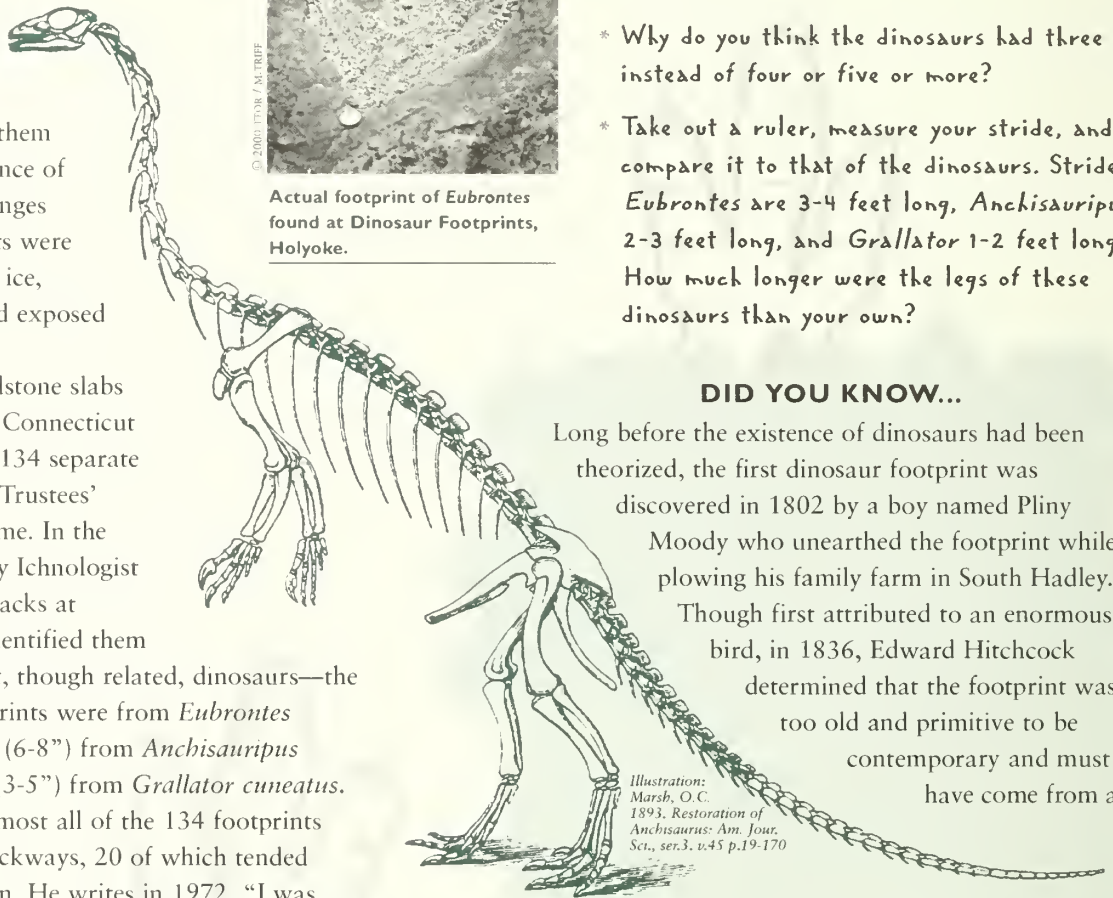
Since at least 1860, ichnologists (those who study fossil tracks) have acclaimed the Connecticut River Valley for its abundance of paleontological specimens, especially dinosaur tracks. Approximately 190 million years ago, during the late Triassic and early Jurassic Periods, the land that is today the Connecticut River Valley was a subtropical region filled with lakes and swamps. Two-legged, carnivorous dinosaurs crossed these lands leaving behind footprints in mudflats which were periodically wetted and dried. Water would fill the footprints instead of wash them away and, through a sequence of climatic and geological changes over the eons, the footprints were preserved in the earth until ice, water, and wind eroded and exposed them many years later.

Preserved in tilted sandstone slabs along the west bank of the Connecticut River in Holyoke, MA are 134 separate dinosaur footprints at The Trustees' reservation by the same name. In the early 1970s, Yale University Ichnologist John Ostrom studied the tracks at Dinosaur Footprints and identified them as being from three distinct, though related, dinosaurs—the largest (11-13" long) footprints were from *Eubrontes giganteus*, the intermediate (6-8") from *Anchisauripus sillimani*, and the smallest (3-5") from *Grallator cuneatus*. Ostrom determined that almost all of the 134 footprints were part of 28 distinct trackways, 20 of which tended towards a westerly direction. He writes in 1972, "I was somewhat surprised to observe that nearly all the conspicuous trackways led in very nearly the same direction." Ostrom concluded, for the first time ever, that some dinosaurs—*Eubrontes*, for example—were actually gregarious and tended to travel as a "herd, pack, or flock."

Dinosaur Footprints offers adults and children alike the chance to step back in time and learn about the life of the dinosaurs. For families with young children, here are some questions to try to answer while visiting:



Actual footprint of *Eubrontes* found at Dinosaur Footprints, Holyoke.



- * How many footprints do you see?
- * Are the footprints bigger, smaller, or just about what you expected? Why?
- * Do you think the dinosaurs were walking or running? Why?
- * How many trackways can you find?
- * Did the dinosaurs walk on two legs or four?
- * Do you think they rested on their tails or not?
- * Looking at the trackways, do you think the dinosaurs were friendly and liked to walk together? Why?
- * Why do you think the dinosaurs had three toes instead of four or five or more?
- * Take out a ruler, measure your stride, and compare it to that of the dinosaurs. Strides of *Eubrontes* are 3-4 feet long, *Anchisauripus* 2-3 feet long, and *Grallator* 1-2 feet long. How much longer were the legs of these dinosaurs than your own?

DID YOU KNOW...

Long before the existence of dinosaurs had been theorized, the first dinosaur footprint was discovered in 1802 by a boy named Pliny Moody who unearthed the footprint while plowing his family farm in South Hadley. Though first attributed to an enormous bird, in 1836, Edward Hitchcock determined that the footprint was too old and primitive to be contemporary and must have come from an

ancient, large, flightless bird. Today, we know this and other footprints come from three-toed reptiles which were probably the descendants of birds. The tracks at Dinosaur Footprints were uncovered in the 1920s when Route 5 was being constructed. Fortunately, they were not destroyed, and, in 1935, The Trustees purchased the 8-acre site from the Pellissier family.

OTHER PLACES TO VISIT: Dinosaur State Park in Rocky Hill, Connecticut (www.dinosaurstatepark.org; 860/529-8423), the Pratt Museum of Natural History at Amherst College (www.amherst.edu; 413/542-2165), Nash Dinosaur Land in Hadley (www.cyberspacemuseum.com; 413/467-9566), Springfield Science Museum (www.quadrangle.org; 413/733-1194), Peabody Museum of Natural History at Yale University (www.peabody.yale.edu; 203/432-5050).

The Trustees is currently developing a master plan for Dinosaur Footprints to improve the attractiveness of the roadside setting and increase the interpretation of this site.

PUBLICATIONS

We need your input!

Help us plan for the next edition of the *Property Guide*, which will be published in April 2001. Tell us how the *Property Guide* can be a more attractive, useful, and handy resource for members.



- ◆ How should it be organized?
- ◆ How should its physical shape and size be altered?
- ◆ What information should be kept, deleted, or added?
- ◆ In what style should it be written?
- ◆ What other suggestions do you have?

Your ideas and input are most important to us. Please take the time to write to us. Send letters by March 31 to: Michael Triff, Director of Communications & Marketing, The Trustees of Reservations, 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530; email cmdept@ttor.org. And, remember, by keeping your membership current, you will receive a copy of the new edition of the *Property Guide*. 📷



Publish your photos in the *Property Guide*!

We're looking for volunteer photographers to submit photos of Trustees properties to illustrate the new edition of the *Property Guide*. For more information, call Michael Triff at 978/524-1889 or email him at cmdept@ttor.org

PRIVATE FUNCTIONS

Bradley Estate To Offer Private Function Rentals



The Eleanor Cabot Bradley Estate in Canton will soon open for weddings, company functions, private parties, and meetings by nonprofit organizations and community groups. The ground floor of the Main House, which was designed by architect Charles Platt in 1902, is being carefully restored and furnished for year-round use. The facility will accommodate up to 150 people, depending on the type

of event. Proceeds will go towards the ongoing preservation of the house and associated estate out-buildings as well as the care of the landscape including the formal garden, kitchen garden, woodlands, and fields. For more information, call the Function Manager at the Bradley Estate at 781/821-2977. Rates and a description of the facilities will be posted on our web site in the early spring. 📷

THE SEMPER VIRENS SOCIETY



A Steady Stream of Income

Despite its frozen appearance (above), the Swift River in Petersham flows steadily onward, a constant stream of water. Imagine if you could enjoy a similar stream of income with consistent, predictable payments and make a generous gift to The Trustees. You can, with the charitable gift annuity.

A charitable gift annuity with The Trustees offers you the following:

- Guaranteed fixed payments for life, a portion of which may be tax-free.
- A charitable income tax deduction.
- Reduced estate taxes.
- Membership in *The Semper Virens Society*, the giving society for planned gift donors.
- An investment in the future of The Trustees.

For an older donor, the gift annuity offers particularly favorable rates. For example, at current rates, a donor aged 75 can earn 8.2% annually—guaranteed!

For more information about how a charitable gift annuity can improve your cash flow, please contact Sarah Carothers at 978/524-1876. Email scarothers@ttor.org

Please let us know

- ☐ Please send me information on the charitable gift annuity and other life income gifts. DATE OF BIRTH: _____
- ☐ Please send me information on how to include The Trustees in my will or make other kinds of provisions in my estate plan.
- ☐ I have remembered The Trustees in my estate plan. Please make me a member of *The Semper Virens Society*.

Mr. Mrs.
Ms. Miss

First Middle Initial Last

Address

City / Town State Zip Code

() Day telephone () Eve telephone

Please complete and return this form to:

Sarah Carothers, Director of Planned Giving
The Trustees of Reservations
572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530
Tel 978/524-1876 Email scarothers@ttor.org

The Trustees of Reservations

Headquarters
Long Hill
572 Essex Street
Beverly, MA 01915-1530

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SPECIAL PLACES

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
Volume 8, No. 1
Winter 2000

Address service requested

SUPPORT THE ANNUAL APPEAL

If you've not yet contributed to the 1999 ANNUAL APPEAL, it's not too late. Misplaced your gift form? No problem! Either mail a check in any envelope or make a gift on-line via our web site at www.thetrustees.org. It's very easy. Go to the "How You Can Help" page and we'll direct you from there. Many thanks!



A mackerel sky over the Little River, Old Town Hill.

a short, steep trail climbs past a vista looking back south to Castle Hill and The Bluffs on Plum Island. From the top of the hill, broad vistas reveal the Merrimack River Estuary and the coast running north to Maine.

The first settlement in Newbury huddled under the eastern slopes of the "Great Hill" which was used as a look-out point for the settlement's sentry. Today, Old Town Hill is a favorite spot for a Sunday afternoon stroll or a family picnic. There are several trails encircling the hill, another to the river south of Newman Road, and a new trail (part of the Bay Circuit Trail) connecting Hay Street with Boston Road. Most offer easy walking and good opportunities for cross-country skiing, though some sections can be challenging to the novice. Spring brings its own special delights as the woods and marshes come alive with migrant and summer resident birds. This past year produced a flock of over sixty glossy ibis feeding noisily in the tidal marshes as they recharged their batteries after the long flight from the south. A quiet walk through the woods and pastures can be rewarded by glimpses of a watchful barred owl, a shy hermit thrush, or white-tailed deer.

The variety of landscapes at Old Town Hill provides many rewards for the observant visitor—ones which can be savored long after the twilight has settled over the drumlin hillocks and the tidal streams that define this special place.

Going Places...SPECIAL Old Town Hill, Newbury PLACES!

by David Powell,
Volunteer Trail Steward

What is 168 feet high and comes in four different flavors? Give up? The Trustees' Old Town Hill in Newbury. Old Town Hill offers magnificent vistas over the Great Marsh and far to the north the distant silhouette of Mount Agamenticus in Maine. The nearly 500 acres of the reservation include open fields, tidal marshes, river frontage on the Little River, and mixed woods of oak, hickory, cedar, and pine. From the turnstile entry on Newman Road,

Please tell us about your favorite day trip to one of our 83 reservations! We'll highlight it here in *Special Places*. Mail to:
Editor, *Special Places*, Headquarters, Long Hill, 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530 or email us at cmdept@ttor.org

